HOUSE No. 2173

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others relative to traffic signal control devices. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

Mary S. Rogeness
George N. Peterson, Jr.

John A. Lepper
Viriato Manuel deMacedo
Elizabeth A. Poirier
Donald F. Humason, Jr.

Susan Williams Gifford
Robert S. Hargraves
Paul J.P. Loscocco
Shirley Gomes
Michael J. Coppola
Todd M. Smola
Richard J. Ross
Susan W. Pope

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

An Act relative to traffic signal control devices.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 89 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Offi-
- 2 cial Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 7B the
- 3 following new section:—
- 4 Section 7C.
- 5 (a) No person shall possess, use, or attempt to use any device
- 6 designed or intended to change, disrupt, alter, interfere, or other-
- 7 wise influence the operation of a traffic signal. The registrar of
- 8 motor vehicles shall compile and maintain a non-exclusive list of
- 9 traffic signal control devices that are prohibited under this section.
- 10 (1) A person found in possession of such a traffic signal control
- device while not in a motor vehicle shall be punished by a fine of
- 12 not more \$125 dollars for a first offense and a fine of not more
- 13 than \$250 for second and subsequent offenses.

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- 14 (2) A person found in possession of such a traffic signal control 15 device while in a motor vehicle shall be punished by a fine of not 16 more than \$250 for a first offense and a fine of not more than 17 \$500 for second and subsequent offenses.
- 18 (3) A person convicted of using or attempting to use such a 19 traffic signal control device shall be punished by a fine of not 20 more than \$500 for a first offense and a fine of not more than \$1,000 for second and subsequent offenses.
- 22 (4) If a person's use of such a traffic signal control device 23 results in property damage or bodily injury, that person shall be 24 punished by a fine of not more than \$1,500 for a first offense and 25 a fine of not more than \$3,000 for second and subsequent 26 offenses.
 - (b) This section shall not apply to:
 - (1) Federal, state, or local law enforcement personnel while in the course of their official duties.
 - (2) Firefighters while in the course of their official duties.
- 31 (3) Emergency medical services personnel while in the course 32 of their official duties.
- 33 (4) State or municipal department of transportation or highway 34 personnel while in the course of their official duties.
- 35 (c) The exemptions set forth in the provisions of subsection (b) 36 shall only apply to such personnel when they are operating 37 licensed ambulances, licensed fire apparatus, or government-38 owned vehicles.